

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6909

INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

DOD

USIA WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AS

SUBJECT: ALLEGED CIA INVOLVEMENT IN DOMESTIC AUSTRALIAN
POLITICS

REF: CANBERRA 7482

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF TELEVISION INTERVIEW TAPED ON
THURSDAY, NOV 6, 1975:

2. QTE: YOU ALSO WANT THE PUBLIC TO JUDGE YOUR ALLEGA-
TIONS ABOUT MR. ANTHONY AND THE CIA.

WHITLAM: THEY WERE RIGHT WEREN'T THEY? I DIDN'T MEN-
TION THE MAN'S NAME - I DIDN'T MENTION THE JOB HE DID.
I DIDN'T MENTION WHERE HE DID THE JOB. AND MR. ANTHONY,
HE MENTIONED THOSE THINGS AND CONFIRMED EVERYTHING THAT
I'VE LEARNED.

Q.: AN ASSOCIATION WITH CIA MONEY HAS FAIRLY SINISTER

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CONNOTATIONS DOESN'T IT?

WHITLAM: OF COURSE IT HAS.

Q.: HE RENTED HIS HOUSE FOR \$500 A MONTH

WHITLAM: OH, THAT'S NOT THE MONEY ONE'S REFERRING TO.

Q.: WELL, WHAT IS YOUR ALLEGATION?

WHITLAM: I'M GOING IN THAT RESPECT ON THE ALLEGATIONS THAT THE FINANCIAL REVIEW MAKES. THE FINANCIAL REVIEWS ASSERTS THAT CIA MONEY HAS COME INTO AUSTRALIA TO CONDITION THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ATTITUDES OF AUSTRALIANS. I'M NOT SAYING THAT MR. ANTHONY WAS PAID BY THE CIA OR THAT HE HANDLED MONEY FROM THE CIA - MR. ANTHONY HAS HAD VERY CLOSE DOMESTIC RELATIONS WITH A CIA CHIEF IN AUSTRALIA AND HE SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER.

Q.: YOUR ALLEGATION WAS ASSOCIATION WITH CIA MONEY. YOU SAY IT'S NOT REALLY THE RENT -

WHITLAM: WELL OF COURSE IT'S NOT.

Q.: SO WHAT IS THE ASSOCIATION WITH CIA MONEY AND MR. ANTHONY THAT IS THE REAL BASIS OF YOUR ALLEGATION?

WHITLAM: THE COUNTRY PARTY, OF WHICH MR. ANTHONY HAS BEEN A VERY SENIOR AND VERY INFLUENTIAL MEMBER FOR SOME TIME BEFORE HE BECAME LEADER - YOU KNOW HIS FATHER WAS A COUNTRY PARTY MINISTER TOO - IT SHOULD NOT HAVE ALLOWED ITSELF TO APPEAR TO BE INFLUENCED BY THE CIA AGAINST AUSTRALIA'S INTERESTS TO THE EXTENT THAT IT MAY WELL HAVE BEEN.

Q.: THAT'S BY ASSOCIATION WITH THE CIA?

WHITLAM: OF COURSE IT IS. THAT'S NOT DOMESTIC - NO - - NO THE ASSOCIATION - MR. ANTHONY LET THE COUNTRY DOWN AND SHOULD HAVE KNOWN WHAT HE WAS DOING BY THIS DOMESTIC RELATIONSHIP WITH A CIA CHIEF IN AUSTRALIA AND AMERICA'S INTERESTS, AS REPRESENTED BY THE CIA, WOULD IN MANY CASES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BE QUITE INIMICAL TO AUSTRALIA'S INTERESTS.

Q.: ARE YOU SUGGESTING THAT YOU WOULD WITHDRAW YOUR BASIC, YOUR FIRST ALLEGATION OF ANTHONY BEING ASSOCIATED WITH CIA MONEY?

WHITLAM: I DON'T WANT IT TO BE THOUGHT THAT MR. ANTHONY RECEIVED ANY MONEY FROM THE CIA, I DON'T WANT IT TO BE THOUGHT THAT MR. ANTHONY HANDLED ANY MONEY FROM THE CIA. I DO BELIEVE THAT THE CIA HAS

PUT MONEY INTO AUSTRALIA, BUT WHAT IS ABSOLUTELY
CERTAIN IS THAT MR. ANTHONY HAD AN UNDUE ASSOCIATION
WITH A CIA CHIEF IN AUSTRALIA EXTENDING OVER SEV-
ERAL YEARS AND THIS WAS AGAINST AUSTRALIA'S INTER-
ESTS AND A SENIOR POLITICIAN LIKE MR. ANTHONY SHOULD
HAVE KNOWN BETTER AND SHOULD HAVE DONE BETTER. END
QTE.
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